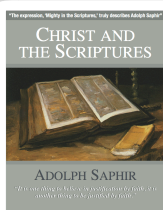


SOVEREIGN GRACE CHURCH

February 25th, 2018

“The LORD did not set HIS love
upon you, nor choose you,
because ye were more in number
than any people; for ye were the
fewest of all people: But because
the LORD loved you...”

(DEUTERONOMY 7:7-8)



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Sunday School 10:00 am

Sunday Worship 11:00 am

Wednesday Worship 7:00 pm

Nursery

Nursery available for 4 years old and younger

Happy B'lated Birthday!

Vicky Hicks - February 20th

This evening's podcast will be from PASTOR DONALD BELL

JOHN 18:1-11 — HE WENT FORTH

To find our podcast search for the keyword **PurposedGrace** on



Apple's **Podcast App** or



Google's **Play Music App**

VENTURE YOUR SOUL UPON CHRIST

“...CALL HIS NAME JESUS: FOR HE SHALL SAVE HIS PEOPLE FROM THEIR SINS.”

(MATTHEW 1:21)

[Beloved], forget everything that seems worthy in you, or done by you; and let all your triumphing and glorying be in the free grace of God, in Christ, and look upon yourselves only in that and all things coming to you, receive as flowing from that fountain only; and if you have more ability than others in doing, let it not come into your thoughts as an inducement to think better of yourselves, as if you were more accepted of God, or pleasing in His sight.

Are you sinful, in respect of the prevalence of corruptions? Are the temptations of Satan mighty? Think not that you are worse or less than others; for iniquity shall not part Christ and thee, if thou be once joined to Him. Be not discouraged, Christ is more ready to receive thee, than thou art to fly to Him; come to Him, therefore, and cast your conditions upon Him; for the greatest of sinners, usually, are the persons that partake of the greatest mercies; *publicans* and *harlots* enter into the kingdom of heaven, while the *Zealots* and *Pharisees* are shut out. If you once close with the Lord, in the freeness of His grace, and cast your souls upon this rock of your salvation, the Lord Jesus Christ, you are past all danger; venture thy soul therefore upon Him, [for “*He shall save His people from their sins*” (MATTHEW 1:21)].

[PASTOR] **TOBIAS CRISP** (1600-1643)

AT WAR WITH SIN BUT AT PEACE IN CHRIST

“THERE IS THEREFORE NOW NO CONDEMNATION TO THEM WHICH ARE IN CHRIST JESUS, WHO WALK NOT AFTER THE FLESH, BUT AFTER THE SPIRIT.” (ROMANS 8:1)

It is true that I have sin in me, but it is pardoned. God has forgiven me all trespasses. I stand before Him in my Redeemer, Who undertook for me, and I am perfect in Him. The Father chose me in His Son: He looks upon the face of His beloved, and sees me in Him.

In Christ He is well pleased—so He is with me! As He loves Christ—He loves me! This is the glorious privilege which by faith I now enjoy. I deny sight and sense, and I believe the Word of God! I adhere strictly to the Word of God concerning me, believing myself to be dead indeed unto sin in Christ, and in Him absolutely freed from guilt and condemnation.

The Father is at peace with me, and He loves me in His son, with the same love with which He loves Christ—His Father and my Father.

With this persuasion I go to war with my corruption. They are fighting against everything that is dear and precious to my soul. But having the promised grace of the almighty Savior for my help, I desire to set upon them in His name. I am at war with sin but at peace in Christ!

[PASTOR] **WILLIAM ROMAIN** (1714-1795)

ABSOLUTE ASSURANCE

“AND WE DESIRE THAT EVERY ONE OF YOU DO SHEW THE SAME DILIGENCE TO THE FULL ASSURANCE OF HOPE UNTO THE END” (HEBREWS 6:11)

The believer has the TRUTH of GOD’S word as his whole hope and absolute assurance:

- 1) He is absolutely sure that GOD THE FATHER chose him, in CHRIST, unto salvation before the foundation of the world. (EPHESIANS 1)
- 2) He is absolutely sure that CHRIST came into this world to live perfectly (as a man) before the holy law of God. (JOHN 1)
- 3) He is absolutely sure that the perfect life that CHRIST lived is now, and shall forever be, charged to his account. (2 CORINTHIANS 5:21)
- 4) He is absolutely sure that the guilt of his sin and rebellion has been dealt with in a substitute (CHRIST, GOD’S Lamb) (2 CORINTHIANS 5:21) and shall never be charged to his own account (2 TIMOTHY 1:12).
- 5) He is absolutely sure that GOD THE FATHER is satisfied with all that HIS SON has accomplished (for the elect) because three days after the death of CHRIST, the FATHER raised HIM from the grave (JOHN 20:9).
- 6) He is absolutely sure that even though men scoff at this blessed Gospel, not one word shall return void unto HIM WHO cannot lie. (ISAIAH 55:11)

PASTOR **MARVIN STALNAKER**

WHAT IS THE SABBATH?

“LET NO MAN THEREFORE JUDGE YOU IN MEAT, OR IN DRINK, OR IN RESPECT OF AN HOLY DAY, OR OF THE NEW MOON, OR OF THE SABBATH DAYS” (COLOSSIANS 2:16)

[Beloved,] blessed be God, we have a perpetual Sabbath in the person and work of Christ. See how Paul states this in Hebrews 4:9, “*There remaineth therefore a rest to the people of God.*” While every other rest is disturbed—this rest in Christ remaineth ever the same.

“*For we which have believed do enter into rest...*” (HEBREWS 4:3). It does not say we have *entered* into rest, though that is a blessed fact; but, we do enter into rest, or into a keeping of the Sabbath.

What is this Sabbath? “*Come unto Me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest*” (MATTHEW 11:28).

When is this Sabbath? On Sunday? Yes, and on any day of the week He is pleased to reveal Himself to us. When He speaks home this precious command to our hearts, we do enter into God’s rest, God’s Sabbath, and we cease from our own works as He did from His. As we enjoy liberty and rest in Christ, the Holy Ghost by the apostle says to us, “*Let no man therefore judge you in meat, or in drink, or in respect of an holyday, or of the new moon, or of the sabbath days: Which are a shadow of things to come; but the body is of Christ. Let no man beguile you of your reward in a voluntary humility and worshipping of angels, intruding into those things which he hath not seen, vainly puffed up by his fleshly mind, And not holding the Head, from which all the body by joints and bands having nourishment ministered, and knit together, increaseth with the increase of God*” (COL. 2:16-18). It is a mercy for me to hang upon Christ for life and salvation.

[PASTOR] THOMAS BRADBURY (1677–1759)

WE PREACH CHRIST JESUS THE LORD

“...WE PREACH NOT OURSELVES, BUT CHRIST JESUS THE LORD...” (2 COR 4:5)

Beloved, it is not how we preach but rather ever so blessedly the Holy Spirit teaches us, it is who we preach that saves sinners. While we do want to show “*all good fidelity*” in our families, at work, and in our communities to “*adorn the doctrine of God our Saviour in all things,*” remember (as the LORD gives you opportunity) it is not how we preach, but rather it is who we preach that saves sinners. We read in the Scriptures how the faithful minister of the gospel “*opened his mouth, and began at the same scripture, and preached unto him JESUS*” (ACTS 8:35). This faithful testimony of God’s people is repeated throughout the scriptures. John the Baptist, a man sent of God, did not say ‘behold a doctrinal truth’ or ‘behold a scientific truth’ rather he said behold The Truth, behold CHRIST, “*Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world*” (JOHN 1:29). AMEN!

PASTOR